

neighbors. As a graduate of the Faculty of Law in Zagreb, Vice Prime Minister, Minister of the Family, Veterans' Affairs and Intergenerational Solidarity, she is a woman of much accomplishment.

Prime Minister Kosor is dedicated to leading Croatia on its final stages of accession toward membership in the European Union. This is an action strongly supported by the United States. I recognize Prime Minister Kosor's efforts and determination in carrying out all the necessary reforms in this process. She has helped to strengthen the rule of law and the economy of her country in order for it to flourish and enter into the European Union.

Croatia is a strong supporter of the United States and its efforts to restore stability and peace to many parts of the world. Croatia is one of the two newest NATO members and a staunch ally of the United States. In Afghanistan Croatia has assisted the United States for years with troops and other ground personnel.

Many years ago my paternal grandfather left Croatia for a new life in America. His son, my father, was the first Croatian American elected to the House of Representatives. I am proud to be the first Croatian American elected to the U.S. Senate. I am honored to meet with Prime Minister Kosor to discuss our nations' mutual support for democracy around the world.

Mr. President and colleagues, please join me in welcoming Prime Minister Kosor to the United States and honoring the friendship our two countries have.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE PUJOLS FAMILY FOUNDATION

• Mrs. McCASKILL. Mr. President, today I commemorate the work and commitment of the Pujols Family Foundation. We all know Albert Pujols as one of today's most notable baseball players and, of course, the first baseman for my home team, the St. Louis Cardinals. However, in addition to his commitments as a professional athlete, Albert has chosen to invest his time and compassion for the past 5 years in the Pujols Family Foundation. In its efforts to provide education, medical relief, and supplies to impoverished children, the Pujols Family Foundation has funded Haitian disaster relief, family-oriented events in St. Louis, and mission trips to the Dominican Republic. Through their efforts and service, the Pujols Family Foundation has become a saving grace for families living with Down's syndrome, disabilities, and life-threatening illnesses without means to afford many of the necessities we take for granted.

Albert Pujols also uses baseball as a way to bring new joy and relief to chil-

dren in the Dominican Republic. Batey Baseball is a new joint venture for 2010 and is spearheaded by Albert Pujols, the Pujols Family Foundation, and Compassion International. Its mission is to teach responsibility, teamwork, and leadership to young men in the Dominican Republic through the sport of baseball. Set to launch in the summer of 2010, this program will bring joy and hope to many young baseball enthusiasts in the Dominican Republic.

It is a welcome occurrence when I have the honor to come before this body and acknowledge the selfless and tireless work done by Missourians on behalf of those less fortunate.

On behalf of myself and the people of Missouri, I would like to recognize and congratulate Albert Pujols, his wife Dordre, and the Pujols Family Foundation on their 5 years of service to the people of St. Louis, MO, and the world.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:47 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1782. An act to provide improvements for the operations of the Federal courts, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2288. An act to amend Public law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Upper Colorado and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2023.

H.R. 4491. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4614. An act to amend part E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for incentive payments under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program for States to implement minimum and enhanced DNA collection processes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 211. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the East Bay Regional Park District in California, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 4:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1782. An act to provide improvements for the operations of the Federal courts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5014. An act to clarify the health care provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that constitutes minimum essential coverage.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4491. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4614. An act to amend part E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for incentive payments under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program for States to implement minimum and enhanced DNA collection processes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 211. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the East Bay Regional Park District in California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2288. An act to amend Public Law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Upper Colorado and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2023.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3384. A bill to direct the General Accountability Office to conduct a full audit of hurricane protection funding and cost estimates associated with post-Katrina hurricane protection; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr.

BARRASSO, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 3385. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to determine the impact of any proposed modification to the policy of the Department of the Interior relating to any onshore oil or natural gas preleasing or leasing activity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. NELSON of Florida,